

1153 for any underpayment.

### REMARKS

Claims 1-13 are pending in the present application, and all of the pending claims are subject to Election of Species Requirements. Applicants herein elect the following species for initial examination:

- (i) prion protein degradation indicator : prion protein degradation indicators selected from the group of proteins consisting of Sup35p, Ure2p, Het-s or a combination thereof;
- (ii) methods : immuno-enzymatic methods;
- (iii) efficiency evaluation : performed by autoclaving, dry heating or by exposure to chemicals, low temperature plasma gas, ozone or alkylant or oxidizing agents; and
- (iv) efficiency evaluation : carried out on container consisting of paper, glass, borosilicate, metal, polymer, alloy or composite.

The Examiner contends that claims 2-10, 12 and 13 are generic. Applicants do not acquiesce that this statement is correct and specifically do not admit that claim 11 is not also generic. Applicants submit that the claims read on the elected species as follows:

- (i) All of claims 1-13 read on the elected species that is specifically recited in claim 5;
- (ii) All of claims 1-13 read on the elected species that is specifically recited in claim 8;
- (iii) All of claims 1-13 read on the elected species that is specifically recited in claim 9;

- (iv) All of claims 1-13 read on the elected species that is specifically recited in claims 12 and 13.

Applicants respectfully remind the Examiner that pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.141, Applicants are entitled to consideration of additional species once one is found patentable.


***FEES***

No fees are believed to be necessary. However, if any fees are due, authorization is hereby given to charge Deposit Account No. 11-1153 for any underpayment.

**CONCLUSION**

Applicants respectfully request entry of the foregoing remarks in the file history of the instant Application. Early and favorable action on the claims is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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